

For Release: April 1, 2010

Contact: Gail Mastrati 222-4700 ext. 2402

<u>DEM ISSUES ADVISORY: RESIDENTS URGED TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF</u> <u>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES</u>

PROVIDENCE - The Department of Environmental Management today advised the public that extreme care should be taken in properly disposing of household hazardous waste items that may have been damaged or impacted by flood waters.

Common household hazardous waste items include oil-based paint/stain, mercury containing devices (thermometers, thermostats, fluorescent bulbs), lawn care chemicals, fertilizer, pool chemicals, batteries, gasoline, household insecticides/pesticides, and automotive fluids.

These items should not be disposed of in the regular waste stream. Residents are urged to set aside these items and properly dispose of them at an upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Eco Depot collection event run by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC). RIRRC has increased its Eco Depot collection events in April to accommodate the increased demand by residents for proper disposal locations. E-waste (TVs, computers, monitors, laptops) will also be collected on these dates.

The updated Eco Depot April collection dates and locations are:

- April 3: Coventry, 1168 Flat River Road; 8am-1pm
- April 10: Johnston, Central Landfill, 65 Shun Pike; 8am-Noon
- April 17: Middletown, Second Beach; 8am-1pm
- April 17: Johnston, Central Landfill, 65 Shun Pike; 8am-1pm (NEW DATE, NEW TIME)
- April 24: Pawtucket, Jenks Jr. High, 8am-1pm
- April 24: Block Island, 9am-1pm

Residents can view a complete list of all household hazardous wastes accepted by the RIRRC and upcoming household hazardous waste collection dates on the RI Resource Recovery website at www.rirrc.org. This free service is for Rhode Island residents only. Appointments are requested to help reduce wait times in line. Please visit RI Resource Recovery's Eco-Depot page to make your appointment or call 942-1430 Ext. 775 or Ext. 241.

For information online about flood cleanups, visit the EPA website at: http://www.epa.gov/naturaldisasters/flooding.html.